

**BOX PCT  
IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY--CHAPTER II**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A  
PRIOR TO ACTION**

APPLICANT(S): Osamu AOKI  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: P06,0070  
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/JP2004/009860  
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: July 9, 2004  
INVENTION: Invalidity Monitoring Program, Invalidity Monitoring  
Method and Invalidity Monitoring System

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants herewith amend the above-referenced PCT application, and request entry of the Amendment prior to examination on the United States Examination Phase.

**Amendments to the Drawings** are reflected in the Replacement Pages attached as an Appendix to this amendment and the appertaining comments on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 13 of this paper.